

Message Text

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44

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OC-05 CCO-00 PER-01 A-01 SS-15

SSO-00 AID-05 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00

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P 191131Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4507

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 24411

FOR SY/FO FROM RSO KELLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: CRIME SITUATION IN BANGKOK

1. THE CRIME SITUATION IN BANGKOK HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY. WE FEEL THAT THREAT TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES RESIDING AT THIS POST REQUIRES A VERY POSITIVE RESPONSE ON OUR PART. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH OCCASIONS OF BURGLARY LEADING TO VIOLENCE. ALTHOUGH BURGLARS HAVE BEEN A PART OF THE BANGKOK SCENE FOR MANY YEARS, IT IS ONLY RECENTLY THAT THEY HAVE BEGUN TO CARRY WEAPONS DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR CRIME. THE BANGKOK BURGLAR CAN NO LONGER BE PLACED IN THE CATEGORY OF A SURREPTITIOUS SNEAK THIEF BUT MUST BE CONSIDERED A DANGEROUS AND POSSIBLY MURDEROUS FELON.

2. CONSEQUENTLY, RSO WANTS TO INSTALL ALARM SYSTEMS IN STATE, AID, USIS, DAO, AND GAO HOMES IN BANGKOK. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 80 HOUSES THAT WOULD QUALIFY FOR ALARM SYSTEMS AND APPROXIMATELY 85 APARTMENTS. COST OF INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE IS APPROXIMATELY \$150 PER HOUSE AND APPROXIMATELY \$50 PER APARTMENT. THIS INCLUDES MICRO-SWITCHES ON WINDOWS, DOORS AND SLIDING PANELS, THE ARMING DEVICE, AN EMERGENCY 12-VOLT BATTERY POWER PACK, AND A BELL OR SIREN TO BE INSTALLED IN THE BEDROOM AND ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE PREMISES. SYSTEM CONTEMPLATED IS SUCH THAT WHEN THE MICRO-
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SWITCHES ARE DISTURBED, THE ALARM IS ACTIVATED ALERTING PERSONNEL

RESIDING IN THE APARTMENT, THE NEIGHBORS, AND THE POLICE. THE SYSTEM DESCRIBED ABOVE IS PRESENTLY USED BY CERTAIN OTHER U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AT THIS POST.

3. ESTIMATE OF OVERALL COSTS, INCLUDING INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE, IS APPROXIMATELY \$20,000 AT THE TOP END. THE COMPONENT PARTS OF THIS SYSTEM ARE AVAILABLE LOCALLY OR CAN BE PURCHASED IN JAPAN. THE PRICE OF PURCHASING THEM HERE IS FAR LESS THAN THE COST OF PURCHASING THEM IN THE STATES. CONSEQUENTLY, THE RSO WOULD LIKE THE TECH CENTER TO EITHER PROVIDE NECESSARY COMPONENTS FOR THIS ALARM SYSTEM OR SUPPORT OUR REQUEST FOR APPROXIMATELY \$20,000 TO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THIS POST IMMEDIATELY FOR THIS PURPOSE. OTHER AGENCIES' EXPERIENCE WITH THIS SYSTEM HAS BEEN HIGHLY FAVORABLE AND HOMES SO EQUIPPED HAVE NOT BEEN BURGLARIZED. POST IS FULLY PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE SYSTEM WHICH WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AS PART OF THE SECURITY PROGRAM AND SUPERVISED BY OUR SEABEE, ASSISTED BY A LOCAL TECHNICIAN.

4. UNLESS TECH CENTER HAS A BETTER OPTION, ONE THAT CAN BE IMPLEMENTED WITHIN A SHORT TIME FRAME, WE WOULD APPRECIATE SUPPORT OF THIS PROPOSAL.

5. POST REQUESTS IMMEDIATE SUPPORT OF THIS PROPOSAL. IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROGRAM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, WE WOULD LIKE REASSURANCE THAT FUNDS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE. IF SO ASSURED, WE WILL IMMEDIATELY INITIATE PROGRAM.
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